CLAIM SHEET

1 through 68. **(Canceled)**

69. **(Previously Presented)** A method for making a tubular film comprising the steps of:

winding a thermoplastic sheet film on a columnar member with at least two turns so that leading and trailing ends of the wound film are positioned approximately on a line normal to an outer surface of the columnar member without overlapping each other;

fitting a tubular molding member over the columnar member with the wound film, wherein a difference between an outer diameter of the columnar member and an inner diameter of the tubular molding member results in a gap between the columnar member and the tubular molding member when the tubular molding member is fitted over the columnar member, and

wherein a thermal coefficient of expansion of the columnar member is larger than a thermal coefficient of expansion of the tubular molding member; and

then heating the columnar member with the wound film and the tubular molding member to a temperature at which the wound film is softened and the gap is narrowed to connect the leading and trailing ends of the wound film, thereby forming the wound film into the tubular member having a uniform thickness.

70 - 71. **(Canceled)**

72. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the leading and trailing ends butt opposite sides of a plane extending through the axis of the columnar member.

73. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the leading and trailing ends are obliquely cut to be spirally-formed about the columnar member.

74. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 72, wherein an angle formed between the leading and trailing ends and the film surface is 90°.

75. **(Draft Amended)** The method according to claim 69, ~~72,~~ wherein an angle formed between the leading and trailing ends and the film surface is other than 90°.

76. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the sheet film is made from at least one material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyethersulfone, and a fluorine resin.

77. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the columnar member with wound film and the tubular molding member are heated upon being placed in a heating device.

73. **(Draft Amended)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the leading and trailing ends are obliquely cut so as to be spirally formed ~~to be spirally-formed~~ about the columnar member when the film is wound on the columnar member.

78. **(New)** A method for making a tubular film comprising the steps of:

providing a thermoplastic sheet film having leading and trailing ends, the leading end forming an angle with a first film surface other than 90° and the trailing end forming an angle with a second film surface equal to the angle between the leading end and the first film surface,

winding the thermoplastic sheet film on a columnar member with at least two turns so that the leading and trailing ends of the wound film are generally aligned with respect to a line normal to an outer surface of the columnar member;

fitting a tubular molding member over the columnar member with the wound film,

wherein a difference between an outer diameter of the columnar member and an inner diameter of the tubular molding member results in a gap between the columnar member and the tubular molding member when the tubular molding member is fitted over the columnar member, and

wherein a thermal coefficient of expansion of the columnar member is larger than a thermal coefficient of expansion of the tubular molding member; and

heating the columnar member with the wound film and the tubular molding member to a temperature at which the wound film is softened and the gap is narrowed to connect the leading and trailing ends of the wound film, thereby forming the wound film into the tubular member having a uniform thickness.